



-1-

#10/865,403
A. 09/11/01
PATENT
TECH CENTER 2100
SEP 27 2000
9/28/02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RECEIVED

In re Patent Application of:) Group Art Unit: 276
TOMOYUKI ASANO) Examiner: NGA B. NGUYEN
Application No.: 08/865,403) **AMENDMENT**
Filed: May 29, 1997) 2001 Ferry Building
For: CHARGING SYSTEM AND) San Francisco, CA 94111
CHARGING METHOD) (415) 433-4150
Atty Docket: SONY-P7449)

)

09/21/2000 CCKAU1 00000060 08865403

02 FC:103 774.00 0P
03 FC:102 546.00 0P

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on September 11, 2000.

LIMBACH & LIMBACH L.L.C. Date: September 11, 2000

By: Mary Burr
Name:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action mailed March 16, 2000, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 1-8 without prejudice.

9. (Three Times Amended) A method [of charging] for [electronic commerce, a service provider terminal] providing a service to a user [via a network in response to a request from a user terminal, and charging a user a fee corresponding to said service], comprising the steps of:

receiving a service request requesting desired service for the user from a service provider and a digital signature generated based on said service request from a user terminal;